

JOHN D. DINGELL  
15TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN  
  
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS  
  
COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE  
  
CO-CHAIR  
  
HOUSE GREAT LAKES  
TASK FORCE  
  
MEMBER  
  
MIGRATORY BIRD  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2215**

May 4, 2011

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The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
U.S. Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**0564**

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

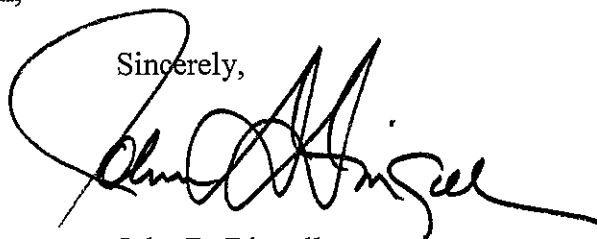
I write concerning the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 11-31) seeking comment on proposals to the Commission's rules governing retransmission consent negotiations. The Commission's work examining whether developments in the video marketplace since passage of the Cable Television and Consumer Protection Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-385) necessitate changes to the current retransmission consent rules is important.

While I believe it is important that the Commission proceed with due deliberation on this and other matters, I encourage the Commission to complete its rulemaking on retransmission consent by year's end. Moreover, the Commission's recognition of its limited authority with respect to retransmission consent – most notably in paragraph 19 of the NPRM – and the remedies requested by petitioners suggests that excessive delay on this matter can be avoided.

Thank you for your kind attention to my concerns. Reasonable action by the Commission concerning retransmission consent will provide greater certainty in the video marketplace and ultimately benefit American consumers.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



John D. Dingell  
Member of Congress

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
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cc: The Honorable Michael J. Copps, Commissioner  
U.S. Federal Communications Commission

The Honorable Robert M. McDowell, Commissioner  
U.S. Federal Communications Commission

The Honorable Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner  
U.S. Federal Communications Commission

The Honorable Meredith Attwell Baker, Commissioner  
U.S. Federal Communications Commission



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

July 5, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI  
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable John D. Dingell  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2328 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dingell:

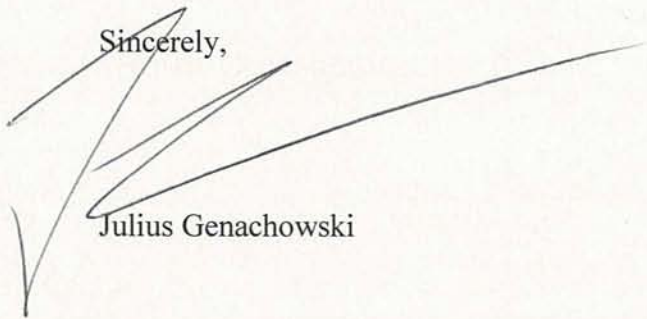
Thank you for your letter concerning the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* to consider possible amendments to its rules governing retransmission consent negotiations between television broadcasters and multichannel video programming distributors (MVPDs). I appreciate your concern for expeditious Commission action in this important matter. Your letter has been placed in the record of the proceeding and your views will be carefully considered.

As you recognize, there have been significant changes in the video programming marketplace since the retransmission consent regime was adopted by Congress in 1992. Our goal in the proceeding is to take a fresh look and update and clarify our rules within the scope of the current statutory framework. We requested specific information regarding the concerns raised by small MVPDs, such as those in your District, and will carefully evaluate the record before us.

The public comment period closed on June 27, 2011. The Bureau has begun its review and will make recommendations for the full Commission. We intend to complete our review expeditiously.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Julius Genachowski